

Indiana Youth Smoking

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Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the United States. Smoking alone is responsible for more than 438,000 premature deaths in the United States annually, close to 9,800 of these deaths happen to Hoosiers. More than 10,200 Indiana youth become new daily smokers each year. Data shown here are from the 2006 Indiana Youth Tobacco Survey.

Indiana Youth Smoking decreases between 2000 and 2006

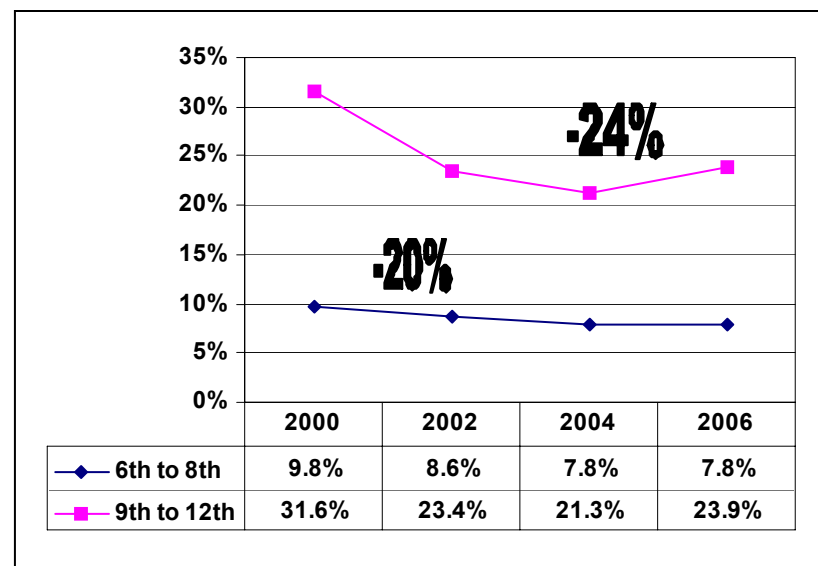
- **High School Smoking – 24%.**
A 24% decline from 31.6% in 2000 to 23.9% in 2006.
- **Middle School Smoking – 8%.**
A 20% decline from 9.8% in 2000 to 7.8% in 2006.
- The smoking rate for middle school girls (8%) is higher than that for boys (7%). The smoking rate for high school girls (23%) is lower than for boys (24%).

Youth Smoking: how Indiana compares to the U.S.

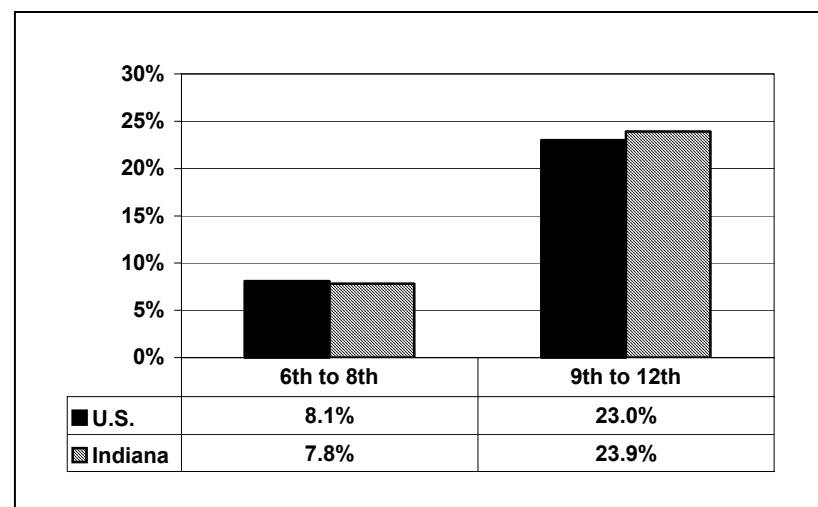
- Smoking rates for Hoosier middle school and high school youth are similar to the U.S. rates.

Note: Current U.S. rates for youth smoking behaviors are not yet available. The national statistics shown to the right are from 2004. The data for Indiana reflects youth smoking rates for 2006.

Indiana Youth Smoking Rates, 2000-2006



Youth Smoking Rates, Indiana vs. U.S

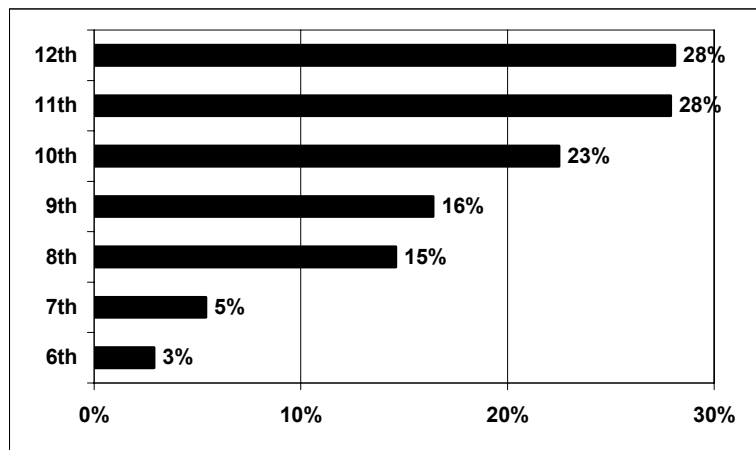


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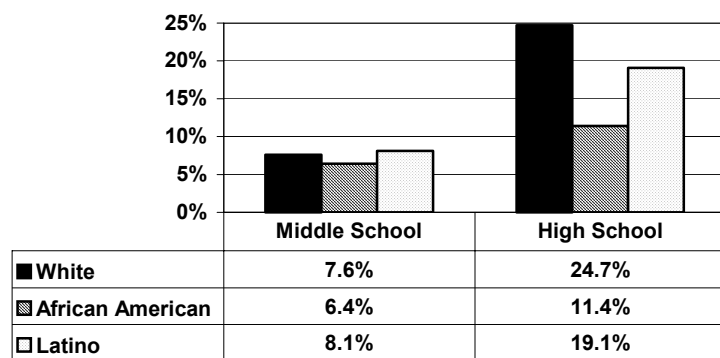
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Indiana Youth Smoking by Grade, 2006



Indiana Youth Smoking by Race/Ethnicity, 2006



Indiana Youth Smoking by Grade

- Smoking rates increase as a youth ages.
- Approximately 3% of 6th grade students are current smokers increasing to 15% by the time students are in the 8th grade.
- Once youth reach the 10th grade smoking rates jump to 23% then increasing to 28% when they are in 11th grade.

Indiana Youth Smoking by Race

- Approximately 6% of African American middle school students report current cigarette use. Fewer African American high school youth smoke compared to the State's overall rate of high school smokers.
- Approximately 8% of Latino middle school and 19% of Latino high school youth currently smoke cigarettes.
- Smoking rates among race/ethnic groups at the middle school level are similar for Whites (7.6%), African Americans (6.4%) and Latinos (8.1%). However, the rate for African American (11.4%) high school students is lower than rates for White (24.7%) and Latino (19.1%) students.

Indiana's tobacco control program includes strategies to reduce youth initiation and access to tobacco. These strategies of increasing the price of tobacco, public education campaigns and the voice movement, as well as increasing smoke-free air policies, are showing progress in reducing youth smoking in Indiana.